

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4686

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008

PER DAY INCOME

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether per capita income in the country has increased to twenty nine thousand rupees as per the figures released for 2006-07 by the Government;
- (b) if so, whether attention of the Government has also been drawn to the figures released by the National Sample Survey Organisation according to which many people in the country earn 12 rupees per day and about one third of the population live in kucha houses;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether Government has analysed the reasons with a view to targeting the scheme and realistically increasing the income level of such people;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) further steps taken/proposed to be taken for realistically reducing the gap between the poor and the rich?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. According to the quick estimates of National Income, Consumption Expenditure, Saving and Capital Formation 2006-07 released by the Central Statistical Organisation, the per capita income (per capita net national product at factor cost) in the country at current prices is estimated at Rs.29642/- in 2006-07 as against Rs.25956/- for the previous year. In the Report No.508 on level and pattern of consumer expenditure 2004-05 of NSS 61st Round brought out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), the per capita consumption expenditure of 30% rural population in the country is less than Rs.12/- per day. Similarly, Report No.488 of NSS 58th Round (July-December, 2002) contained the information on percentage of pucca and kutcha dwelling units by State/UT highlighted that 21% of the rural dwelling units were kutcha.

(c) to (f): The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the poverty alleviation programmes to provide wage and self employment with the objective of generating incremental income for the rural households. With effect from 1st April, 2008, all the districts of the country have been covered under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme which is a major wage employment scheme. Under this scheme, each rural household is guaranteed 100 days of wage employment in a financial year whose adult members are willing to take up unskilled manual work. The Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is a self-employment programme under which the rural poor are provided assistance in the form of subsidy and credit to take up economic activities which could generate income on a sustainable basis. The Government have also extended the Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme to all the BPL persons who are of the age of 65 and above and are given a pension of Rs.200 per month. The State Governments are also required to supplement this amount. A rural housing programme of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) is being implemented for the rural poor under which financial assistance is provided. On an average more than 20 lakh dwelling units are being constructed annually under this programme. The programmes of Rural Drinking Water Supply and Total Sanitation Campaign aim at improving the living conditions of the rural poor households so that their productivity is enhanced.